Texarkana Gazette

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WAITING WIVES — Texas computer magnate Ross Perot chats with three women whose husbands he hopes to aid. They are Mrs. Glenn wilson, center, Mrs. John Heid (partly hidden) and Mrs. Dean St. Pierre. Mrs. Wilson's husband has been a POW in Hanoi three years and she has had contact with him. The other's husband have been missing since shot down in Vietnam in 1969. Perot spoke on POWs at General Federation of Women's Clubs convention Thursday in San Antonio, Tex. (AP Wirephoto)

Antiwar Forces Defeat Bill

Curb on U. S. Aid to Cambodia Probable

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate antiwar forces won a major probably decisive victory Thursday in their month-long drive to restrict future U.S. operations in Cambodia.

By a vote of 32 to 47 they defeated a key administration-backed amendment, sponsored by Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., and prepared the way for probable adoption next week of the Cooper-Church amendment to curb both U.S. actions and aid in Cambodia after July 1.

The action constituted a rebuff to President Nixon, who last week endorsed the Byrd amendment. Opponents contended Byrd's proposal would have given advance approval to any future U.S. assaults into Cambodia undertaken in the name of protecting American forces in Vietnam.

Both Byrd and Sen. John Sherman Cooper, R-Ky., cosponsor with Sen. Frank Church, D—Idaho, of the Cooper-Church amendment, said the vote means this amendment will be approved by the Senate.

But the victory could prove more symbolic than substantial since the amendment is likely to be rejected by the House.

However, Senate insistence on it in the Senate-House conference to follow could jeopardize the military sales authorization bill, which is the vehicle for the Cooper-Church amendment. Many key senators oppose the bill without that provision, while the administration wants the bill without it.

In a second vote on the 21st day of the debate, the Senate unanimously approved 91 to 0 a proviso by Democratic leader Mike Mansfield making clear that nothing in the Cooper-Church amendment infringes on the President's constitutional authority as commander in chief. Several senators have expressed concern on this point.

Thursday's votes capped almost 24 hours of energetic parliamentary maneuvering which began late Wednesday when Byrd and his backers apparently realized they were short of votes.

But Sen. J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., charging Byrd was trying to confuse the issue, twice blocked him from making revisions to sweeten his proposal and possibly attract additional votes.

The amendment was designed to spell out presidential authority to take whatever action he deemed necessary to protect U.S. troops in Vietnam. Wednesday night Byrd tried vainly to add language requesting the President to consult with congressional leaders before acting, and Thursday morning he presented a version saying any action would be temporary and only if clearly necessary.

On the crucial roll call vote, 29 Democrats and 13 Republicans teamed up to oppose the Byrd amendment, while 18 Democrats and 29 Republicans supported it. Only ailing Sen. Karl E. Mundt, R-S.D., was absent.

The packed galleries cheered and jeered when Sens. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., B. Everett Jordan, D-N.C., and Robert W. Packwood, R-Ore., cast crucial votes against the amendment and burst into applause when the clerk finished calling the roll.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, presiding as President of the Senate, banged his gavel and threatened to clear the galleries. The hub-bub subsided.

Our World This Morning

INTERNATIONAL

Viet Cong Bloodbath Reported

SAIGON (AP) — An estimated 114 South Vietnamese civilians were killed and another 70 wounded in a two-hour bloodbath Thursday when Viet Cong troops overran a village south of Da Nang, reliable sources said.

The U.S. Command said 70 civilians were known killed and 70 wounded in the assault on Ba Ren, a hamlet of about 2,000 residents 17 miles southeast of Da Nang.

The assault followed a 45-minute mortar barrage which set fire to much of the riverside village. It was launched a few hours before the Saigon government announced that it would repatriate 62 sick and wounded North Vietnamese soldiers next month for "humanitarian reasons."

Some U.S. officers who flew over the smoldering remains of the hamlet said it was about 90 per cent destroyed or damaged.

Survivors said Viet Cong ran through the streets of Ba Ren shooting anyone they saw.

ARKANSAS

W. H. Arnold Files for Reelection

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—W.H. (Dub) Arnold, 35, of Arkadelphia, filed Thursday for re-election to his post as prosecutor in the 8th District. He will face Texarkana attorney John W. Goodson in the Aug. 25 Arkansas Democratic Primary.

The 8th District includes Miller, Nevada, Clark, and Hempstead Counties.

WEATHER

Scattered Showers

TEXARKANA WEATHER — Yesterday's high, 86; low 71; rainfall, .86, for period ending 9 p.m.

SW ARKANSAS — Partly cloudy to cloudy with no important temperature change; slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. High, upper 80s; low, upper 60s.

SE OKLAHOMA — Cloudy and warm with chance of showers. High, 87-90; low, 67-72.

NE TEXAS — Clear to partly cloudy with chance of widely scattered thundershowers. High, 90s; low, upper 60s.

NW LOUISIANA — Partly cloudy and warm and windy with widely scattered thundershowers. High Friday, 85-90; low, 66-72.

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Atlanta Honored For Achievements

Gazette's Austin Bureau

AUSTIN, Tex.—Atlanta was one of the three cities honored by Governor Preston Smith Thursday for its achievement in 1969 in improving its community.

Mayor John W. Grist received the plaque from Gov. Smith at the luncheon of the Beautify Texas Council at the Terrace Motor Hotel.

"This justifiably proud community has been successful at a wide variety of necessary tasks of city development," Gov. Smith said.

The governor cited new high schools, a modern 65-bed hospital, city-wide beautification and cleanup projects, new sewage treatment facilities, the establishment of new industries, and "most importantly, judicious use of the principles of local self-government" as his reasons for the award.

In its application for the award, Atlanta listed 28 citizen participation and education projects, 20 economic development projects, 11 beautification projects, and 18 property improvement projects.

Mayor Grist said he was "a nervous wreck" but was extremely pleased that Atlanta was chosen.

HIGHWAY 67 & ROBISON

Widening of Intersection Awaits Official Approval

By BARRY POWELL
Staff Writer

Construction on proposed improvements of the intersection of Highway 67 and Robison Road is scheduled to begin in the next six to seven months, pending approval of the plans by the Texas Highway Department and the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads, Department of Transportation, Resident Engineer L.E. Jester Jr. reported Thursday.

The plans, presented at a public hearing in the Texarkana, Tex., city council chambers in City Hall at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, propose widening of both highway 67 and Robison Rd. to four lane divided highways with protected left turn lanes and added traffic signals.

Texas Highway Department District Engineer Gilbert L. Youngs described the atmosphere of the hearing as "favorable."

"The improvements of Robison Road at the intersection fall into a unique area," Youngs said. The plans will be carried out under the Federal Traffics Operations for Increasing Capacity and Safety (TOPICS) Type II. Under TOPICS plans, improving of city streets such as Robison Road are funded on a fifth-fifty basis, Youngs explained. The entire project will be funded by the city, the state and the federal government.

Youngs and Jester said that the plans for the improvements stemmed from the 1967 Texarkana Urban Transportation Study report that the Robison Road-Highway 67 intersection had the highest accident frequency in the area, averaging 40 accidents per year.

Construction on Highway 67 will begin two-tenths of a mile east of Robison Road and end two-tenths of a mile west of Robison Road.

Robison Road improvements will cover an area from one-tenth of a mile north of Highway 67 to one-tenth of a mile south of 67.

Included in the improvements will be a widening of the Waggoner Creek bridges on 67 just before the intersection, and on Robison Road 500 yards south of the intersection. Also planned for inclusion in the project are the addition of curbs, gutters and storm sewers.

The completion of the project will leave Highway 67 a 68-foot wide, four-lane divided highway, and Robison Road, a 62-foot wide, four lane divided highway through the intersection.

Combined with city construction on Robison Road, the TOPICS construction will make the road a four-lane divided highway from Highway 59 to Highway 67.

Area officials and the residents of the area present at the public hearing had no complaints against the project, Jester said. Dr. D.W. Wisdom, Texarkana, Tex., mayor, sent a letter commending the proposed improvements. City Manager Ben Misell and Director of the Northeast Texas Economic Development District Sylvan Lange both expressed their favor for the project.

Youngs said that, since there were no opinions expressed to indicate displeasure with the project, approval from the State Highway Department and from the Bureau of Public Roads, U.S. Department of Transportation, could be expected.

"The verbatim transcript of the hearing must be sent to our office in Austin and approved, then to the Bureau of Public Roads and approved," Jester said. Two to four months from the approved by these two departments, he added, construction will begin. "The approval of the two offices may take from one to three months," Jester said.

Jester reported that the project for Robison Rd. was the first TOPICS plan implemented in District 19, covering nine counties in northeast Texas.

Petition Discussion Planned

Texarkanans, rather than the State of Arkansas, should be responsible for acquiring a city administrator form of government for Texarkana, Ark., the Committee for Representative Government asserted in a statement issued Thursday.

Chairman of the committee, N.H. Hilliard, said progress on petitions currently circulating in Texarkana, Ark., seeking a "more representative" form of government would be discussed at a committee meeting tentatively scheduled Monday night.

The petitions call for a special election, preferably before the November elections, according to the committee, to see if Texarkana, Ark., citizens want a city government which will include four city directors elected from wards and three other directors and a mayor elected at large. The current city board of directors and the mayor are elected at large.

Arkansas City Manager Paul Schriever said Wednesday that the at-large city governments in the state of Arkansas would be eliminated if the proposed new Arkansas constitution is ratified by voters in the November elections. Attorney Richard S. Arnold, who was elected to the Arkansas Constitutional Convention, said "To a very large extent it (the city government provisions in the proposed constitution) would be what these people circulating petitions are now trying to achieve."

The Committee for Representative Government countered Thursday with "The new constitution is not a certainty. There have been some statewide personalities that have vowed their opposition to the constitution. Most of the county judges are also said to be against it. The Committee for Representative Government would like to see the new constitution passed, but we also want ward election in Texarkana ensured.

"There is also a good chance that ward elections could be started by the November elections instead of after them," the committee's statement reads. "Anyone who believes in the basic American concept of representative government should support this move."

BREATH OF LIFE — Mrs. Buford Shores, a registered nurse of Elyria, Ohio, was on her way home Wednesday when she saw Michael Coger, 7, lying in the street and a group of people just standing around. Mrs. Shores stopped her car and found that Michael, who has been hit by a pickup truck, was not breathing. She began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and soon the boy was breathing and moaning. He was rushed to a hospital. (AP Wirephoto)

500 KILLED OR WOUNDED

Jordanian Troops Battle Guerrillas

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Extremist Palestinian guerrillas and Jordanian troops fought bitterly in the streets of Amman again Thursday in a struggle which has left at least 500 persons killed or wounded, according to reports reaching Beirut, Lebanon.

The bloody clashes continued despite a Jordanian government claim the fighting had ended and "normal life has returned completely."

The radical Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, ignoring pleas of the government and other guerrilla leaders, battled the government troops in all parts of the city and threatened 52 foreigners, several American.

The hostages, 36 at the Intercontinental Hotel and 22 at the Philadelphia Hotel, were held in an effort to force the government to halt artillery attacks on refugee camps. The hostages were reported unharmed but the guerrillas said they could not be responsible for their safety unless the attacks are stopped. Two American newsmen escaped from the Intercontinental.

One of the hostages in the Intercontinental, Associated Press correspondent Dennis Neeld, reported that guerrillas told the hostages they would be released but reversed the decision when the army resumed shelling refugee camps Thursday.

Telephone and cable links with the embattled capital were snarled but travelers reaching Israeli-occupied Jordan via the Allenby Bridge reported bursts of automatic rifle fire in Amman.

"It is terrifying in Amman," a traveler said. "All the shops are closed. Here and there you see some bands of youths, aged perhaps 10 to 15, carrying submachine guns and wearing guerrilla outfits."

King Hussein of Jordan said Thursday the situation "is improving rapidly" but reports reaching Beirut did not bear him out.

Palestinian guerrilla sources in Beirut said heavy fighting had broken out, with army tanks shelling refugee camps and nearby streets. The source said a major target of the tank attack was Wahdat Camp, headquarters for many guerrilla groups.

President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt called for an immediate cease-fire between the guerrillas and Jordanian troops, urging both sides to "stop this plunge into destruction."

He said Egypt could not remain silent on the fighting "because the danger faced every Arab." He urged both sides to respect the cease-fire appeals of Hussein and Yasir Arafat, leader of Al Fatah and combined guerrilla organizations.

Hussein and Arafat reached a cease-fire agreement Wednesday but the pact was ignored.

Sources in Beirut also reported fighting in the Jordanian towns of Zerka and Sweilah.

Arab diplomats in Beirut said the fighting began when Hussein's cousin, Sherif Zeid Ben Shaker, angered because his sister was killed by a stray bullet, ordered his armored division to shell the refugee camps. They said Shaker acted in defiance of the King's orders.

Israeli planes Thursday attacked Egyptian military targets along the Suez Canal for the 24th hours in a row, opening and returned to hit canal objectives in the afternoon, the military command announced in Tel Aviv.

FOR HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION

New Boston And Clarksville Requests Federal Aid Money

Gazette's Austin Bureau

AUSTIN, Tex. — New Boston and Clarksville presented requests to the Texas Board of Health Thursday for federal aid of almost $2 million to aid hospital construction in their areas.

Clarksville requested $1 million to help build a new 65-bed hospital to replace the present 34-bed facility. The funds would go to supplement the Red River County Hospital project totaling $2,852,000.

New Boston's request totaled $775,650 in Federal money to help in the West Bowie General Hospital project totaling $1,551,300. The project includes a new 50-bed facility to replace the present 27 bed hospital.

The two east Texas cities were among cities and hospitals from across the state that requested over $58 million in Federal aid under the Hill-Burton health facilities construction law. The money requested is hoped to help pay for $161,104,641 in facilities. However, indications are that Congress will allocate only $24 million for Texas. The bill in Congress now calls for a national total of $362,500,000, allowing only $24 million for Texas.

State officials indicated that many of the requests will have to be denied this year, even though many of the projects are carryovers from 1970 when only $9 million in federal aid was available for Texas.